principle approval are being examined along with the proposals of other States and the same will be considered depending upon inter-se-priority and also availability of funds.

India's bid For 2014 Asian Games

*313. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has made a bid to host 2014 Asian Games in the Country;

(b) if so, whether Government have decided upon the city or place which would host the games if the bid is selected;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of any other preparation underway to make the Indian hosting of 2014 Asian Games a success?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government have accorded approval to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to bid for holding the Asian Games in 2014 at Delhi.

(d) The details would be worked out in the event of India's bid being successful.

India's position in IT at world level

*314. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has out-stripped China and Russia in IT race as per Global Information Technology Report;

(b) if so, the details thereof and India's place in the IT sector as per this report; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for improving India's Place in IT sector at international level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. India has out-stripped China & Russia in IT Race. The Global Information Technology Report 2005-06's "Networked Readiness Index" gives the degree of preparedness of a nation or readiness Index" gives the degree of preparedness of a nation or community to participate in and benefit from ICT developments.

India : Network Readiness Index 0.23 (40th rank)

China : Network Readiness Index 0.01 (50th rank)

Russia : Network Readiness Index 0.39 (72nd rank)

(b) India is ranked at 40th position out of 115 Member countries.

(c) Government has approved the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) covering its Vision, Approach, 27 Mission Mode Projects & 8 Support components to expedite implementation of e-Governance in the country. The NeGP also includes establishment of the following core infrastructure aimed at improving the Network Readiness Index:

(i) A Scheme for establishment of State Wide Area Networks (NWANs) for providing minimum data connectivity of 2 Mbps up to the block level, has been approved by the Government at total outlay of Rs. 3,334 crores with Central Assistance component of Rs. 2005 crores, over a period of 5 years.

(ii) Government has formulated a proposal for establishing 100,000+lnformation & Communication Technology (ICT) enabled Common Services Centres (CSCs) predominatly in the rural areas across the country. These CSCs would have the flexibility to offer a mix of services (both Government and non-government, including localized services) that may be needed by the local community.

Delhi Golf Club

*315. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have acquired the right to nominate eminent persons in various institutions like the Delhi Golf Club;

(b) if so, whether only eminent persons are to be nominated to Delhi Golf Club;